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INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 HA-06 /022 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION IMMEDIATE

[REDACTED] STATE 219820

E.O. 12065:N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PA

SUBJECT:FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS TO CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY ON  
HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS.

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO TESTIMONY JULY 21 ON U.S. VOTES IN THE  
MDBS FOR LOANS FOR ARGENTINA, CHILE, PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY,  
REPRESENTATIVE PATTERSON HAS REQUESTED ADDITIONAL INFORMA-  
TION AND OR RESPONSES TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS. DEPARTMENT  
REQUESTS EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE ON URGENT BASIS IN REPLYING  
TO FOLLOWING REQUEST: "MR. JOHNSON TESTIFIED THAT THE  
NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN PARAGUAY HAS SHRUNK FROM  
500 TO A HALF DOZEN NOW. THIS IS IN STRIKING VARIANCE  
WITH THE TESTIMONY BY THE PRIVATE WITNESSES. PLEASE COM-  
MENT ON THE DISCREPANCY AND PROVIDE SOURCES FOR THE  
ADMINISTRATION'S FIGURES. PLEASE ALSO COMMENT ON ANY  
KNOWN RECENT INCIDENTS OF TORTURE BY PARAGUAYAN OFFICIALS  
AND THE WELL-BEING OF THE TOBA-MASKOY INDIANS IN PARAGUAY."

2. DEPARTMENT HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO PIN DOWN SPECIFIC  
CONTENT OF TESTIMONY FROM PRIVATE WITNESSES THAT WAS AT  
[REDACTED]  
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"STRIKING VARIANCE" ON THIS ISSUE. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny  
Exemption(s):  
Declassify: ( ) In Part ( ) In Full *Declassify*  
( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

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STATEMENT ON PARAGUAY AT HEARING REFERRED TO FOLLOWING  
"PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE": SEVERAL CAMPESESINOS BELONGING  
TO LIGAS AGRARIAS; ANTONIO MAIDANA CAMPOS AND EMILIO ROA

ESPINOSA; VARIOUS JOURNALISTS INCLUDING JUAN ANDRES  
CARDOZO, LUIS ALBERTO GUALCO, EDUARDO ROLON, HERNANDO  
SEVILLA AND ROLANDO CHAPARRO (BUT AI SAID MOST HAVE NOW  
BEEN RELEASED). PERHAPS BEST COURSE WOULD BE EMBASSY  
UPDATE OF PREVIOUS LISTINGS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, WITH  
EXPLANATION FOR THE GREY AREA BETWEEN THOSE WHO ARE  
CLEARLY POLITICAL AND THOSE WHO HAVE SIMPLY RUN AFOUL  
OF A HIGHLY PLACED OR INFLUENTIAL PARAGUAYAN.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE BY AUGUST 20. CLARK

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